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Chairman: Mr. Koudelka (Vice-Chairman) ..... (Czech Republic)

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In the absence of Mr. Wali (Nigeria), Mr. Koudelka (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 54: Globalization and interdependence (*continued*) (A/60/11 and A/60/115)

(a) Globalization and interdependence (*continued*) (A/60/129 and A/60/322)

(b) Science and technology for development (*continued*) (A/60/184)

(c) International migration and development (*continued*) (A/60/205)

(d) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin (*continued*) (A/60/157)

1. **Mr. Amin-Mansour** (Islamic Republic of Iran), noting the important role that new and emerging technologies, including biotechnology, could play in enhancing productivity and accelerating the development of nations, reiterated that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development should provide policy guidance, especially with regard to issues of relevance to developing countries. He welcomed the establishment of UN-Biotech as an interagency coordination mechanism whose work in the five broad programme areas was highly relevant and commended the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology for, among other things, conducting training courses, building up national capacities, financing collaborative research projects and fellowship programmes, as well as environmentally sound management of biotechnology and biosafety. His delegation agreed with the proposal that UN-Biotech should serve as an advisory unit for developing countries on new trends in biotechnology innovations, policy and trade. Focus on the areas described in paragraph 11 of the report (A/60/184) could help developing countries achieve their internationally agreed goals and targets.

2. His Government believed that bioethics was one of the most important interdisciplinary branches of science. It had accordingly hosted the International Congress of Bioethics in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The Congress had afforded a unique opportunity for scientists to discuss the most important aspects of biological sciences from an ethical point of view. His delegation also welcomed the initiative by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to review, on a voluntary basis, national policies concerning science, technology and innovation.

3. **Mr. de Rivero** (Peru) said that, as long as the technological and socio-political factors currently fuelling international migration persisted, migration would be unstoppable. International migration offered benefits and presented challenges to both sending and receiving countries. Migration to developed countries, which was seen as a way out for poor, conflict-racked developing countries, could mitigate the problem of population ageing in most developed countries and allow those countries to maintain their current levels of economic productivity.

4. International migration should be at the heart of the international agenda. Plans of action were needed to address the different dimensions of that complex phenomenon. To that end, Peru had taken the initiative, with the support of the Group of 77 and China, of convening a special international conference, at the ministerial level, of developing countries with substantial international migration flows, to be held in Lima in April 2006. The conference would cover all the major topics of international migration, including the regularization of migrant workers in receiving countries, respect for the human rights of migrant workers, and the vital matter of reducing the transaction costs of migrant remittances to countries of origin.

5. The perverse attempts to consider migrants' remittances as a source of financing for development were unacceptable. There was a difference between informing migrants about investment options and attempting to put to productive use the private resources that migrants sent to their countries of origin. Those making such proposals should focus on honouring the commitments they had made to achieve a genuine global partnership for development. Lastly, he sought clarification as to the meaning of "migration management". He hoped the term did not hide an attempt to impose tighter restrictions on the movement of persons around the world.

6. **Mr. Elmejerbi** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that, in order to ensure that the benefits of globalization included the developing countries, the international community should meet its obligations and responsibilities by first maintaining its commitment to the global partnership for development in accordance with the Millennium Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. It should also recognize that, in a globalizing economy, exclusive reliance on the market mechanism was not enough to meet the challenge of achieving the agreed development goals. Sound management and the supremacy of the law in the national and international contexts of globalization were essential, along with support for the full and effective participation of the developing countries in decision-making, the elaboration of international economic rules and the promotion of transparency in the financial and monetary systems and in international trade. A fair and non-discriminatory multilateral trade regime should give priority to the development dimension and the advanced countries should pursue economic policies that afforded more opportunities for the developing countries to achieve such objectives as the Millennium Development Goals. The developing countries similarly required more accessible and affordable technology; the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Tunis in November 2005, would serve as a catalyst for bridging the current digital divide.

7. With reference to the proposals and recommendations contained in the report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization, he emphasized that programmes and policies developed in the context of globalization should be fully consistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and with international law and efforts should be made to establish a fairer international economic system that allowed all countries to grow and develop. He welcomed the high-level dialogue to be devoted to international migration and development in 2006 and hoped that it would address all aspects of migration with a view to enlarging its benefits and minimizing its adverse effects on socio-economic development in all countries. Lastly, he outlined the efforts of the international community to combat corruption, which was a serious obstacle to the effective mobilization and distribution of resources for activities aimed at achieving sustainable development and alleviating poverty and hunger. In June 2005, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya had ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption, having initially signed it in December 2003.

8. **Mr. Cordovez** (Ecuador) said that the issue of migration must be addressed in a comprehensive and transparent manner with a view to achieving realistic solutions. The main causes of international migration were extreme poverty, social marginalization and high unemployment in developing countries. Migration was of crucial importance to Ecuador, where it had both a positive and negative impact. That was why his delegation hoped that the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development would lead to the adoption of concrete measures and recommendations on policies to address the challenges of migration.

9. Ecuadorian immigrants contributed to the economic growth of the receiving societies. He appealed to all Governments, especially in recipient countries, to ensure that all the rights of migrants were protected, especially their right to decent wages, social protection and jobs that matched their skills and education. Ecuador continued to support the strict control of migration, active cooperation between sending and receiving countries and between such countries and international organizations. He urged the international community to enhance its cooperation in the fight against human trafficking, including through coordination mechanisms, training of civil servants and adoption of legislation.

10. Remittances were private funds to be used by migrants as they saw fit. The entities that benefited from such remittances should offer more flexible terms to the migrant communities. However, the transaction costs of remittances severely hindered investment and savings in the migrants' countries of origin. His delegation would therefore support any efforts to reduce such transaction costs, including during the High-level Dialogue.

11. **Mr. Chaudhry** (Pakistan) noted that the number of migrants had increased from 82 million in 1970 to the current figure of 200 million. Migrants currently made up 3 per cent of the world population. Yet, despite its intrinsic importance and cross-cutting nature, migration received only sporadic attention. The High-level Dialogue should provide a unique opportunity for the international community to

comprehensively address the multifaceted phenomenon of international migration. It was ironic that, while considerable energy and resources were spent on securing the free movement of goods, very little was being done to facilitate the movement of persons — another factor of production. Something must be done to secure a truly fair and genuinely development-oriented global trading regime that dealt equally and equitably with the movement of goods and services, including that of labour.

12. The factors that triggered migration should also be addressed. Pakistan agreed that States and the private sector should consider introducing temporary migration programmes as a means of addressing the economic needs of sending and destination countries. Exploring and facilitating channels for regular migration would help to maximize the developmental impact of migration in both receiving and sending States as well as reduce human trafficking and abuse of migrant rights. A global partnership and a multi-stakeholder approach were needed. Without the requisite machinery and institutional support, it would be difficult to generate and sustain coherence and coordination on migration issues. His delegation was ready to consider various ideas, including the proposal to establish an international global migration facility. The Economic and Social Council should also play an important role in furthering the global discourse on migration.

13. Turning to science and technology for development, he noted that industrialization was the key to high GDP growth. Development and poverty alleviation depended on the ability of nations to move from agricultural to knowledge-based economies, which could be achieved only by producing goods of high added value. Thus the most critical component for socio-economic advancement was knowledge and innovation. Regrettably, the promise of science and technology had remained unfulfilled and technology had often become a great divider. Creating links between knowledge generation and development was one of the greatest challenges facing developing countries. He hoped that the Summit Outcomes would provide the necessary impetus for urgently needed actions in that area. In that regard, he recalled the proposals for specific national and international actions to help developing countries effectively use science and technology to achieve their development objectives and goals put forward by the President of Pakistan at the Global Roundtable Forum on Investment and Innovation: Scaling Science and Technology to meet the Millennium Development Goals.

14. His Government had taken a number of preventive and curative measures to reduce the impact of corruption and of the outflows of assets acquired through corruption on economic growth and sustainable development. However, corruption was a transnational crime that required concerted international action, particularly measures to return illegally acquired assets to the countries of origin. Indeed, the prompt return of such assets acted as a serious deterrent against corrupt practices. He hoped that the elements examined in the Secretary-General's report on the subject (A/60/157) would be analysed more extensively in future, given the top priority assigned by world leaders to tackling corruption.

15. **Ms. Ruder** (Switzerland) said that, in view of the growth of international migration, it was necessary to examine its multiple facets in order to strengthen the positive aspects and combat the undesirable effects. In an increasingly interdependent world, discussions at the global level were important to enhance the potential for economic, cultural and social development inherent in migration.

16. Switzerland had been working towards that goal for several years. In December 2004, the International Agenda for Migration Management had been launched within the framework of the Berne Initiative. It described common perceptions and effective practices for a coordinated, planned and balanced approach to migration management. Switzerland had also been one of the five founding countries of the Global Commission on International Migration. The Commission's report would provide a frame of reference for States, helping them examine the complex issue of migration and evolve a holistic and coordinated approach.

17. The High-level Dialogue in 2006 would be an essential phase of the discussion on migration; the definition and application of a general policy on migration was the responsibility of each State, but the United Nations was the appropriate forum to examine aspects relating to social, cultural and economic development. Regarding the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development (A/60/205), her delegation considered that a comprehensive overview of studies and analyses on the

multidimensional aspects of migration and development would provide a good basis for discussions during the High-level Dialogue. The report of the Global Commission on International Migration would also be useful and an interactive exchange of ideas would allow sensitive aspects to be discussed in a favourable environment.

18. **Mr. Baja** (Philippines) welcomed the recognition in the 2005 World Summit Outcome of the important linkages between international migration and development, and the need to address the issue in a coordinated and comprehensive manner. The 2006 High-level Dialogue should focus on four important areas: the nexus between migration and development; remittances, especially measures to reduce transfer costs; the need to ensure respect for and protection of the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families; and the enhancement of global governance and cooperation on international migration. There was a need for greater consultation at the national, regional and international levels in order to manage migratory flows smoothly. Also, clarification of the role of the different United Nations bodies and agencies was required, as well as that of other institutions dealing with migration, so as to ensure coherence.

19. Overseas employment was driven by the demand for particular skills in one country and the availability of skilled manpower in another and should benefit both. The Philippines was a major labour-exporting country, with almost 9 per cent of the population living outside the country; the dollar remittances of its workers abroad helped the country's economy. However, one of the most common problems encountered by overseas workers was violation of their basic rights. The Philippines believed that a good welfare and protection programme benefited both the workers and the receiving country and had elaborated a programme that took the whole employment process into consideration. It also continued to forge and upgrade bilateral or multilateral arrangements with host Governments, since experience had shown that migration problems were attended to more effectively when the entry of Philippine workers into a host country was governed by an agreement.

20. Philippine contract workers would continue to be in high demand because of their education, training and work ethic and there were several lessons to be learned from the country's migration experience: there was no substitute for good governance in migration management; regulation must continue if the basic safety nets were to be ensured; and global competitiveness in labour migration should take into account the potential benefits of overseas employment and reward it accordingly. Managing international migration required collective internal and international efforts and should support the value of orderly movement over irregular migration while acknowledging the increasing desire of migrants to participate in the activities of their host countries. The right of States to prescribe appropriate conduct and behaviour for people seeking to settle in their territories should give due consideration to the important role of migrant workers in the growth and development of the economy. Lastly, his delegation hoped that the report of the Global Commission on International Migration would generate awareness of the issue of migration and encourage a comprehensive debate.

21. **Mr. Tameo** (Papua New Guinea) said that most developing countries were faced with extreme pressure to cope with globalization and interdependence by undertaking policy and institutional reforms. National institutions had to function effectively, transparently and coherently to ensure a system-wide approach to implementing government policies. However, institutions in developing countries were weak and had difficulty adapting to change; they also faced severe resource and manpower constraints that affected the country's ability to take advantage of the benefits and opportunities of the globalization process. Given the enormity of the tasks and their urgency, Papua New Guinea called on the United Nations system and other development partners to support its national efforts.

22. Small island developing States needed flexible arrangements such as streamlined reporting requirements for related issues, so that one report could be prepared for two or more closely connected matters. Also, the ability of the Pacific island countries to deal with issues such as international terrorism depended to a large extent on regional collaborative efforts, which could be further strengthened by allowing one regional report to be compiled that clearly reflect the situation in each member country.

23. Official development assistance (ODA) was important to help developing countries achieve national development objectives as well as international commitments, such as the Millennium Development Goals; however, mutual understanding

and partnership were needed to address issues of ODA management and absorptive capacity in recipient countries. In that respect, the performance assessment framework developed by Mozambique and its donor partners was of considerable interest. Moreover, developing countries should participate in the policy and decision-making process of the international financial institutions.

24. Papua New Guinea faced challenges in providing basic health services, owing to the lack of trained medical personnel and resources, compounded by the spread of HIV/AIDS and the resurgence of malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases. It would welcome a concrete proposal to enable developing countries to eliminate user fees for basic health services and provide free mosquito nets as vital steps to assist the poor.

25. Corruption was a major impediment to achieving economic growth, prosperity and sustainable development goals. Despite his country's commitment to combat corruption, its efforts often fell short owing to lack of adequate technical and human capacity, as well as financial and other resource constraints. It therefore called for the support and assistance of the international community. Given the importance of the issue, it was in the process of ratifying the United Nations Convention against Corruption and intended to ensure its full implementation at the national level.

26. **Mr. Ndjonkou** (International Labour Organization (ILO)) said the organization was particularly concerned about the protection of migrant workers, especially since international migration was likely to increase. Factors inherent in globalization were reducing employment in countries of origin and, to date, some 120 million workers and their families had migrated. The issue therefore was how to manage migration for the benefit of all stakeholders.

27. ILO had been working to promote an understanding of managing labour migration as a positive economic and social force in a globalized economy, which potentially provided one of the most important instruments for regional, economic and social integration. To that end, it was trying to develop the knowledge base; promote relevant international conventions; strengthen relevant social dialogue; provide capacity-building and technical assistance, as well as special action programmes to protect vulnerable groups, and generally build an international consensus for cooperation on migration.

28. Extending the protection of basic rights to all migrant workers was more imperative than ever and the provisions of the eight fundamental ILO Conventions applied, without distinction, to all migrant workers regardless of their legal status. The ILO mandate in that regard had been significantly boosted by the adoption of the resolution and conclusions on a fair deal for migrant workers in a global economy in 2004. True to its mandate and its decent work agenda, the organization had prepared a plan of action that included activities related to employment in countries of origin and destination, social dialogue, rights and work, and protection of migrant workers. As part of the implementation of the plan, it had also prepared a draft non-binding multilateral framework on labour migration and a compilation of best practices to assist policymakers.

29. ILO welcomed the inclusion of migration in the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the 2006 High-level Dialogue and the report of the Global Commission on International Migration. In the coming years, ILO would pursue a rights-based approach to migration. In cooperation with its tripartite constituents, the organization would seek to influence the global migration agenda with a view to contributing to the quest for decent work and the satisfactory management of migration.

30. **Mr. Wibisono** (Indonesia) said that globalization could benefit all parties, but could also sow seeds of discontent. The institutional dimensions of the challenge of integrating the global economy could be addressed by strong involvement of national institutions in maximizing economic growth while promoting social goals and protection of the environment. Nevertheless, the development and adaptation of such institutions was not easy and needed to take into account the goals of social equity and environmental sustainability. When considering institutional reform, Indonesia had decided that addressing the needs of the poor would be a priority and a milestone in promoting rapid, broad-based and sustainable growth and development.

31. With regard to the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report on building institutions for achieving the development goals and integrating in the global economy (A/60/322), Indonesia agreed that

government institutions must be flexible to address the many challenges of globalization. However, developed countries and international organizations must continue to provide active and non-discriminatory assistance to support the establishment of such institutions. In view of the cross-regional effects of globalization on all sectors, no country could deal with the issue comprehensively on its own.

32. The President of Indonesia had decreed that corruption would not be tolerated and every branch of the Government had been mandated to track down any remaining cases, while new laws required the national authorities to ensure the transparency and accountability of public administration. Arrangements for mutual legal assistance had been established with Australia, China, the Republic of Korea and most members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, while Indonesia had signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption and was finalizing the ratification process.

33. On the issue of international migration and development, some 2.6 million Indonesians worked abroad, sending around $3.4 billion in remittances every year. Indonesia was strongly committed to protect its citizens who worked abroad and had recently drafted national laws to protect Indonesian migrant workers and to combat trafficking in persons. However, no country could tackle the issue alone and coordination and cooperation among countries was essential. In the absence of any real international mechanism, Indonesia had played an active role at the regional level in discussions on migration. It therefore welcomed the High-level Dialogue to be held in 2006, and believed strongly that the International Organization for Migration should participate in the Dialogue and welcomed its contribution at the regional and subregional level.

34. **Mr. Bodini** (San Marino) drew attention to the anticipated impact of the population explosion on the potential benefits of globalization. All the demographic growth was taking place in poor countries, and mostly in urban areas. New cities would be created in poor countries, at unsuitable locations, subject to constraints imposed by energy limitations and placing higher food demands on shrinking agricultural land. He doubted that such growth was financially, economically or socially feasible.

35. The large disparity between gross domestic product in the rich developed countries and in the poor ones was being further aggravated by the fact that transfers of technology to the more advanced developing countries was not only threatening living standards in the industrialized countries, but was also increasing the divide between the poor majority and the rich elite.

36. He appealed to the United Nations urgently to address those problems in such a way as to ensure that the peoples of the developed countries did not become poorer or feel threatened, that the successful developing countries put a halt to the increasing disparity between rich and poor countries and that the poorer countries were ensured the benefits of globalization. Those requirements were potentially conflicting, and the United Nations should put in place practical rules to mediate between them.

37. **Mr. Ozden** (World Bank), referring to agenda item 54 (c), noted that the interest generated by the recent report of the Global Commission on International Migration was further testimony to the rising importance of migration on the global agenda. For a number of reasons, it had become increasingly difficult for current government policies to restrain international migration.

38. In spite of the scope of the phenomenon, the knowledge base on the economic effects of migration, particularly on countries of origin and on development, was rather limited. He described the work of the World Bank in that regard and in particular the International Migration and Development Research Program, designed to provide basic data and analysis for policy debates on the subject of migration. The Program also sought to identify policies and reforms for improved development outcomes for source and destination countries, and migrants themselves. In addition, the World Bank had recently issued important publications, including original research on migration issues aimed at development experts, policymakers and the academic community.

39. Given the complexity and sensitivity of the subject, much care should be taken to ensure that policy decisions were based on accurate data and analysis. The World Bank had been actively investigating global trends, the determinants and impact of migration and remittances on development and welfare measures, and the "brain drain". The most

striking findings concerned the scope of the brain drain from developing countries, and the low level of employment secured by college-educated migrants living in the industrialized countries.

40. Reiterating the need for systematic and reliable data collection, he said that discussion on migration was shrouded in ignorance, and based on false premises and assumptions. He was therefore pleased that the World Bank could constructively contribute to the academic and policy debate through its expertise in data collection and analysis.

41. **Mr. Ghigo** (Malta) said that Malta had begun to experience illegal migration, as a country of destination, and expressed his delegation's general concern over unregulated human trafficking across the Mediterranean. The rapid increase in the number of illegal immigrants arriving in Malta recently had stretched the country's capacity to absorb the influx, and the financial, social, administrative and judicial burden had, regrettably, also impinged on the quality of humanitarian assistance provided to the genuine cases of asylum-seekers. The geographical location, size and population density of Malta further intensified the pressure. His Government had repeatedly called on other European Union member States and Mediterranean partners to join Malta in tackling the situation it faced, and he expressed his gratitude to the States that had so far responded by extending valuable assistance and cooperation.

42. Malta welcomed the opportunity to discuss the multidimensional aspects of international migration at the High-level Dialogue on international migration and development in September 2006. His Government was committed to actively exploring policy issues on international cooperation to prevent and combat the trafficking in persons as identified in the report of the Secretary-General. He also commended the report of the Global Commission on Migration, which highlighted migration as a transnational issue that required cooperation among States at the subregional, regional and global levels.

43. Malta recognized its international and moral responsibilities and remained committed to providing asylum or protected humanitarian status, in accordance with international conventions. It called for cooperation between countries of origin, transit and other destination countries to deal effectively with the challenge posed by illegal immigration.

44. **Mr. Gerus** (Belarus), with reference to globalization and interdependence, said that a valuable message enshrined in the Outcome of the 2005 World Summit was the importance of strengthening global partnership between industrially developed countries and countries that received international assistance. Belarus fully supported the conclusions of the Summit on the importance of the implementation of principles of good governance at all levels, to ensure progress towards internationally agreed development goals. The Outcome stressed the value of designing and implementing national development programmes and strategies in developing countries and Belarus recognized the value of such national programme documents.

45. However, Governments of industrially developed countries bore even greater responsibility to implement sound and effective macroeconomic policy. In an era of globalization, stagnation and failures in their economic mechanisms could lead to colossal economic losses in developing States. By pursuing a multidimensional policy approach through the development of trade and economic relations with States of various regions, Belarus was contributing to the resolution of socio-economic problems of developing countries. His delegation supported the statements made in various forums on the need for the international community to focus more on the needs of middle-income countries and economies in transition in order to help them attain the Millennium Development Goals and subsequently graduate to the category of developed countries.

46. His delegation hoped that the draft resolution on globalization and interdependence would retain the provision underscoring the issues of great concern to economies in transition, thereby helping them capitalize on the benefits of globalization and ensure their full integration into the world economy. A reformed United Nations should create conditions in which each State considered itself a fully fledged member, in a common global process, in search of mechanisms to harness the benefits of globalization, and to mitigate its unfavourable social impact on the vulnerable sectors of society, especially in developing countries.

47. **Ms. Zubčević** (Croatia) said that the Croatian authorities were aware of the undesirable effects of corruption — which undermined investment prospects, undercut legitimate economic competition, distorted economic growth and reinforced inequalities — and

were doing their utmost, at the regional, national and local levels, to promote good governance and eliminate corruption in the interests of an enabling environment for investment and economic growth.

48. To that end, they had created a solid legal framework bringing the Criminal Code into line with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols and with the Council of Europe Criminal Law Convention on Corruption. The Criminal Code now defined corruption in the private sector, criminalizing both active and passive involvement in bribery.

49. Among various institutional measures and initiatives, he mentioned the Action Plan to combat corruption, covering organizational measures in the administrative system, decentralization of power, financial liability and other economic measures, international activities, and the promotion of political and civic responsibility. Most measures under the National Programme to Combat Corruption had already been implemented and the Government had formulated a National Strategy against Corruption, shortly to be adopted. It would be implemented by a new anti-corruption body composed of representatives of the public administration and civil society, which would endeavour to prevent corruption and educate the public, in compliance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

50. The National Strategy also provided for the education of judges and public prosecutors working in the area of corruption, with help from the Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation (CARDS) programme of the European Union, and the Judicial Academy of the Ministry of Justice. The Council of Europe anti-corruption peer review mechanism (GRECO) had made its second evaluation of Croatia's anti-corruption institutions in March 2005 and its report was expected shortly.

51. Concrete measures had been adopted to increase Croatia's capacity for international and regional cooperation and served as a solid basis for further development of regional networks and frameworks. Most of those measures — the above-mentioned legislative amendments, establishment of a regional prosecutors' network, development of online communication with financial reporting institutions, and participation in regional money-laundering programmes — were already in effect. A witness protection unit had been established and the Europol project would soon be finalized. Croatia was actively combating corruption at all levels and would continue to do so within the framework of the United Nations.

52. **Mr. Kanranja** (Kenya) said that the comprehensive reports of the Secretary-General on globalization and interdependence (A/60/129 and A/60/322) provided useful insights on the framework for conceptualizing and managing globalization in order to enhance development. The reports also provided valuable information on the promotion of institutional and policy coherence for achieving a broad array of economic, social and environmental goals. Well-managed globalization could deliver unprecedented material progress, generate more and better jobs for all, and contribute significantly to reducing world poverty.

53. However, globalization had generated unbalanced outcomes both between countries and across regions. Wealth had been created, but all too many countries did not share the benefits. Most of sub-Saharan Africa continued to deal with shocks and the adjustment problems from the opening up of their economies to foreign competition.

54. Integration into the world economy had become an economic imperative, with the adoption of market-oriented reforms being considered a key to deepening integration. Rapid growth of global markets had not, however, been accompanied by parallel development of economic and social institutions to cater for change in trade orientation or to ensure the smooth and equitable functioning of those markets. The multilateral trading system, which continued to be dominated by unfair trade rules and practices, should substantially lower unfair barriers to market access, especially for goods in which developing countries had a competitive edge.

55. Foreign direct investment had remained uneven because the incentive competition policy had not favoured developing countries, except for the emerging economies of Asia, which had the required capacity to develop sound infrastructural frameworks. The link between macroeconomic stability, social development and growth had also been contentious. In order to attain the internationally agreed development goals, Governments had recently been forced to spend more on education and health, while at the same time maintaining the stability of major macroeconomic fundamentals. Although in Kenya such spending had

resulted in a massive increase in enrolment at the primary level, and a significant decline in infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and malaria, it had also forced the Government to downgrade its growth forecasts and to spend less in productive sectors, such as agriculture and infrastructure. That strategy had somewhat affected efforts to fight poverty and the overall process of development because of difficulties to publicly finance key programmes.

56. Infrastructural deficiencies posed a major impediment to investments and competitiveness by increasing the cost of production and were a major disincentive to investors. Sound macroeconomic conditions needed to be buttressed by a sound physical infrastructure, an element that was seriously lacking in Kenya and many other developing countries.

57. Turning to science and technology for development, he outlined his Government's current priorities for the development and application of science, technology and innovation, describing the key national institutions for scientific and technological endeavours and their achievements to date. Kenya had made steady progress in the fields of research, science and technology, which had led to improvements in crop production, livestock, tuberculosis treatment and energy research, among other areas.

58. With reference to international migration and development, Kenya acknowledged the growing importance of migrants not only as a source of livelihood for their own families, but also because remittances were a source of financing for development for many developing countries. The issue of exploitative pricing of remittance transfers should be taken up in greater detail with the leading financial institutions within the context of the High-level Dialogue on international migration and development. Steps should be taken to build a multilateral framework that provided uniform and transparent rules for the cross-border movement of people and balanced the interests of migrants, countries of origin and countries of destination.

59. On the topic of preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin, he said that Kenya had demonstrated its commitment to fighting corruption by being among the first countries to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Since then, Kenya had enacted anti-corruption laws, carried out a reform of the judiciary, and intensified its efforts to trace illicit assets, including freezing and recovering of illegally acquired funds. A five-year anti-corruption campaign had been launched to create awareness and stigmatize corruption.

60. A globalized world should not only focus on market, macroeconomic and institutional reforms but should also embrace the entire development process and outcomes. All reforms should respond to the needs of the developing countries in their efforts to attain the Millennium Development Goals and address the requirements of the poor in an overall strategy to promote more rapid and sustainable development.

61. **Mr. Savua** (Fiji) said that increased cross-border movements were a hallmark of globalization. Migrants were generally regarded as purposeful, entrepreneurial individuals; they were also important emerging actors in economic development. Their remittances had a significant potential impact on long-term economic development. Not only did they respond to the immediate subsistence needs of individuals and families; they also provided income for investments, land purchase, business enterprises and savings, which in turn stimulated local and national economies and national credit ratings.

62. However, international migration had its costs. The topic had not featured prominently in the original framework of the Millennium Development Goals, nor had there been serious analysis of the link between migration and attainment of those Goals. Without such analysis and without national policies that holistically addressed the benefits and costs of migration, individual citizens in small developing economies might well channel their new-found wealth into non-productive consumption that could undermine poverty alleviation and exacerbate the so-called migration culture and dependency syndrome.

63. Technical cooperation between countries of origin and host countries was vital in order to strengthen institutions, enact and enforce laws, and ensure that internationally recognized labour standards were respected in order to protect the rights of migrant workers and provide them with an environment in which they could realize their full potential as remitters.

64. Concerted international attention must be given to the impact of migration on health, gender,

trafficking in persons, the environment and the global partnership for development. His delegation welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development (A/60/205) and endorsed the choice of topics for discussion at the round table to be held as part of the High-level Dialogue on international migration and development during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly. He urged Member States to participate at the ministerial level in that Dialogue, which offered a unique opportunity for establishing the bases of enhanced international cooperation on those issues.

65. **Ms. Kittani** (Iraq) said that, developing countries were endeavouring to introduce reforms that would enable their institutions to adapt to the global economic changes under way. Other key elements to achieving higher economic growth rates and sustainable development goals included foreign direct investment, the harnessing of technology for development and broader trade relations. The challenges of globalization were proving critical, however, for the numerous developing countries that were being further weakened through marginalization in the fields of finance, trade and technology. Globalization, moreover, offered no lasting solutions to the basic problems from which they suffered. The adoption of measures for tackling the disparities in the current global system was therefore imperative.

66. It was equally essential, however, for the developing countries to formulate national development policies and mobilize their resources in a way that achieved their development goals through practices geared to the global market situation. Her own country's development process had been halted by years of armed conflict and the depletion of natural resources by the former regime. As a result, not only had it been unable to keep pace with developments in the global economy but it had also fallen from its previous position as a provider of development assistance into that of a debtor. Today, however, Iraq was looking forward to returning to its natural position, rebuilding its economic institutions and making up for lost opportunities. To that end, crucial adjustments to the economic, tax and trade sectors were already being made.

67. **Mr. Salazar Pineda** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) associated his delegation with the view that neo-liberal globalization had adverse effects on attempts to build a just and mutually supportive world. But globalization and interdependence were not modern phenomena: they had existed for 500 years, ever since the Europeans had arrived on the American continent. Europe had made scientific and cultural advances and plundered the continent's resources in the name of progress, but solely in the interests of its own development. European trade had received an enormous boost with the addition of the American continent's resources, a trade that fed Western development while it annihilated peoples, civilizations and cultures. On the American continent alone, 50 million Africans had been uprooted and murdered. Nothing had changed. The vastly unbalanced distribution of the costs of globalization was continuing and a small group of countries, businesses and social and political elites reaped the benefits of hegemonistic neo-liberal globalization.

68. The fundamental imbalances inherent in globalization were manifested every day in the form of hunger, disease and poverty, and millions of people still died of starvation each year. With the dominance of the culture of the economically powerful nations, the brutal extension of market principles had created new forms of inequality and advanced not pluralism but the conflict of cultures to the detriment of many of the world's languages, allowing five countries to monopolize the cultural industries, including the Internet.

69. The reports of the Secretary-General on that issue, glossed over the social and cultural situation in the world and placed a one-dimensional emphasis on growth, income generation and national capacity-building. The eradication of poverty and its structural causes must be addressed in a comprehensive manner because, whatever the time frame used, the growth of economic activity had resulted only in the accumulation of wealth by a few and the increased poverty of the majority.

70. Turning to the subject of science and technology for development, he stated that his Government had taken measures to consolidate a national science and technology system; it was collating experiences and projects with international academic and scientific centres and exploring South-South scientific cooperation through a proactive policy of graduate and postgraduate training, in a context of respectful dialogue concerning the traditional peoples' resources and knowledge.

71. He alluded to the fruitful experience of the International Centre of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, headquartered in Trieste and New Delhi, of which his country was a founder member and with which it maintained a network of affiliated national centres. Training scientists from the developing countries and encouraging them to work in their own countries was a response to one of the many negative manifestations of globalization — the brain drain, which should be discussed with the best political will at the High-level Dialogue during the next session of the General Assembly. The main flaw of the 2005 World Summit had been failure to deal with the issues of inhuman globalization, with development, and with intolerable poverty.

72. **Mr. Silva** (Cape Verde) said that migration brought both benefits and challenges to countries of origin and destination alike. Half of all Cape Verdeans lived abroad as emigrants. The Government considered them to be an enormous asset to the country's development, especially in terms of their remittances, which accounted for 15 per cent of gross domestic product. In 1991, the Government had created a ministry for Cape Verdean migrant communities and an institute devoted to migrant worker issues. Both those bodies protected and promoted the interests of emigrants at the national, regional and international levels, apprised them of their rights and helped them form associations.

73. Remittances had a visibly positive impact and contributed to the fight against poverty, to academic training, to the emergence of small enterprises and to the creation of temporary jobs. In that context, emigrants were given special incentives to invest in and return to the country: favourable bank loan and deposit rates; exemption from customs duty on their imported possessions, and guaranteed property rights upon investment in Cape Verde.

74. The country was socially and politically stable; it was therefore for economic reasons that Cape Verdeans emigrated. The resulting brain drain posed a major challenge to the country, as it did to all developing countries. A recent World Bank study had placed Cape Verde first in Africa in terms of the proportion of its educated and skilled workforce that had emigrated. The country could achieve a higher level of development if all its educated and skilled migrant workers who chose to live in countries with higher pay and a higher standard of living returned to their homeland. That could be achieved only through national, regional and international action to enable the country to create conditions that encouraged skilled and educated residents to stay and those that had left to return.

75. The High-level Dialogue scheduled for 2006 should identify ways of maximizing the development benefits of migration and minimizing its negative impact.

The meeting rose at 12.45 p.m.